

REMARKS

Examination of the present continuation application filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is respectfully requested.

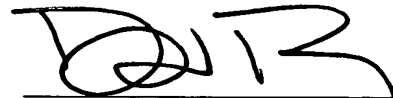
The present application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/717,227 (the "parent application"), filed on November 22, 2000. In the present preliminary amendment, Applicant has amended the specification to cross-reference the parent application.

The Examiner should note that the present application includes new claims 66 and 67. Support for claim 67 may be found, for example, on page 28, lines 3 – 6.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due, permission is hereby given to charge any unforeseen fees to deposit account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DGP', written over a horizontal line.

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